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The WESTERN RAILROADER

For the Western Railfan

Issue 16~~4~~ NEWS SUPPLEMENT June 1953

CP&LT BUYS DIESEL The Camino Placerville & Lake Tahoe Railway has purchased a 44-ton diesel electric locomotive from General Electric for delivery in July. It will replace the two 70-ton shays now used and Engine #1 will be scrapped and #2 kept for stand-by only. The 8.05 mile line between Placerville and Camino runs four roundtrips each week on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

SAN FRANCISCO CHIEF ANNOUNCED The Santa Fe has announced that it will schedule a new San Francisco-Chicago streamliner to be called the San Francisco Chief by Easter of next year. The new schedule will leave San Francisco about noon and arrive in San Francisco early in the afternoon thus supplementing the "Golden Gates" down the valley.

PE 5050's ARRIVE IN PORTLAND The first of the Pacific Electric 5050's have now arrived in Portland for the Oregon City service. They are being numbered 4015-4022. There is some conflict as to the numbers sent. One report is that they were PE 5174 to 5181 inclusive, but another gives the numbers as PE 5058, 5069, 5072, 5074, 5075, 5076, 5078 and 5099. The later informant states that PEPCO 4015 was PE 5074 and 4017 was 5099.

PE SANTA MONICA BLVD LINE ENDS Last through cars ran May 29th on the Santa Monica Blvd. line and the shuttle ended May 31st, but the PE will retain freight rights west of Highland to reach its Hollywood freight station.

EXCURSION NEWS

July 26 - Pacific Railroad Society out of Los Angeles Southern Pacific trip to Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and Santa Margarita Pass using steam power. Write to Society, P.O. Box 5279, Metropolitan Station, Los Angles 55, Calif.

Omitted from the list in the main section is the October 4th date for the R&LHS "Sonora Express" over the Sierra Railroad using the #3 and the wooden open-end coaches.

PUBLICATIONS

Ira Swett's latest Interurbans Special No. 16 is the beginning of a new Pacific Electric project "Lines of Pacific Electric". This first section of 20 pages covers the Northern District with history, discription and track maps of the various lines. It sells for $1 and will be followed by other districts in time. Send orders to Interurbans, 1416 South Westmoreland Avenue, Los Angeles 6, California.

FERROCARRIL DEL PACIFICO (PACIFIC RAILROAD)

The May 1 list shows 131 engines on the roster of this West Coast of Mexico route as follows:

1 4-6-2 - #304
18 2-6-0 - #401, 410, 412, 414, 416, 419, 422, 425, 426, 430, 431, 432, 434 to 439 inclusive.
19 4-6-0 - #510 to 514 inclusive, 520 to 533 inclusive.
93 2-8-0 - #600, 601, 606, 607, 608, 610, 612, 614 to 699 inclusive.

Engines 200-202, 300-303, 305-307, 400, 411, 413, 415, 417, 418, 420, 421, 423, 424, 500, 611 and 613 have been retired.

The list in Issue #150 of the Western Railroader should be supplemented by the following engines:

439 (ex-SP 1826), 531-533 (ex-SP 2318, 2329, 2332), 637-639 (ex-St Louis & Southwestern 765, 756, 763), 667-669 (ex-SLSW 757, 769, 774), 693-699 (ex-SLSW 770, 771, 775, 780, 785, 784, 782).

Shop Goat 9001, ex-SP de M 20 is still in service. It was originally SP 1099, Baldwin 20932 in 1902.

Richard V. Dodge and Gerald M. Best

GREAT NORTHERN OVERHAULS GAS COACH Gas-electric car 2325 has been returned to trains 253 and 254 between Wenatchee and Oroville, Washington after overhaul. - W.E. Thayer.

D&C ABANDONMENT CONFIRMED A letter from the Caldor Lumber Company confirms the report in the last issue that the logging railroad has been abandoned. The last ten miles are being torn up by the lumber company, but the rest will be sold together with equipment to a scrap dealer.

Caldor Lumber Company's home-made diesel #1001 used for standard gauge switching around the plant is now in service and 7 log flats from Fruit Growers Supply at Susanville were delivered recently knocked-down.

-- The Hammonds

SIERRA RAILROAD NEWS A new 3-D motion picture said to be titled "The Moonlighters" was shot on the Sierra Railroad the first part of May. Engine #3 was renumbered 8 for the movie, but lettering remained Sierra Railroad.

Sierra's mallet #38 returned to service May 23rd after seven (7) months in the shops. On the same day the tender from Sierra 18, now being scrapped, left on a flat car for Stockton where it will be used on Tidewater Southern 132. The tank from WP 152 originally scheduled to be used on TS 132 was found to be too large. -- Richard Lucas

DIAMOND MATCH REPORTED ENDING RAIL LINE A report has been received that the Diamond Match Company is tearing up its logging line to Butte Meadows out of Sterling City, but the company has declined to confirm the reports. Other news from the area is that the S.P. engine house in Chico has been removed. Sacramento Northern 410 is operating the electric switching at Oroville while the 405 is stored at the W.P. roundhouse there as a spare.

-- Robert Lowry

S.P. TRIES COTTON BELT 4-8-4 ON COMMUTERS St Louis & Southwestern 818, a 4-8-4, was used on S.P.'s San Francisco-San Jose commute trains for a week the latter part of May, and reports are that the series may be brought in to replace the 4300's as 4380-4399. They were built by Baldwin and the Cotton Belt in 1930, 1937 and 1942. Ten are currently leased to the SP, two the T&NO and eight are still on the Cotton Belt. See Cotton Belt roster in the current (July '53) issue of Railroad Magazine.

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MEETING NOTICE

The Northern California Railroad Club will meet Thursday evening, June 18th, at 8:00 P.M. at the Railroadian's Diner spotted just south of the S.P.'s Third & Townsend Sts. Depot, San Francisco. A program titled "Where to Go on Your Vacation" will be presented by a group from Central Coast illustrated by slides and maps. Visitors Welcome.

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